

Department of Fish and Wildlife

Ocean Salmon & Columbia River Program 17330 SE Evelyn Street Clackamas, OR 97015 (971) 673-6000 FAX (971) 673-6073



February 7, 2013

Ronald Twiner Operations Manager US Army Corps of Engineers The Dalles Lock and Dam PO Box 564 The Dalles, OR 97058

Subject: Northern Pikeminnow Management Program Employee Access

Dear Mr. Twiner:

This is the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's (Department's) annual letter to notify you of our 2013 field season on the Columbia River. This letter will also serve as a formal request for permission to access the project Boat Restricted Zone (BRZ) to facilitate our biological sampling, as we continue to evaluate the Northern Pikeminnow Management Program (NPMP) annually.

In order to evaluate the NPMP, we will be using electrofishing boats to capture and tag northern pikeminnow near The Dalles Dam this spring; this should include portions of the project BRZ selected to provide for a statistically sound sampling design while observing all safety requirements for operating in BRZs. It is our goal to closely coordinate with you and your staff, as we have in past years, to ensure that all safety requirements are met. The project point of contact will be notified in advance of the intended sampling dates and our sampling teams will establish radio contact with the control room prior to entering the BRZ. We recognize that spill levels or other project operations may limit or preclude our ability to access the BRZ.

We are committed to provide all necessary documentation required for fish researchers and other team members working at The Dalles Dam. Employee specific information and documentation will be provided to you as soon as we finalize staffing for these studies.

I would like to inform you of the currently pending approval of our Washington state collection permit renewal for 2013. Furthermore, we hold a current NOAA-Fisheries, ESA Section 7 permit covering listed salmonid stocks.

Within the Department, myself (971-673-6068), Matt Gardner (971-673-6048), and Mac Barr (971-673-6062) are the administrative and technical contacts for this project. Please feel free to contact any of us for additional information or questions you may have.

As always, thank you for considering our request for project access.

Sincerely,

Erick VanDyke

Project Leader, Predation Studies

cc Tammy Mackey Paul Keller